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TAGS: SHUM, TO
SUBJ: 1981 HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT FOR TOGO

1. FOLLOWING IS UPDATED HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT FOR TOGO FOR 1981:

INTRODUCTION:
TOGO IS A ONE-PARTY AUTHORITARIAN STATE. ITS ECONOMY IS A MIXTURE OF GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISES. NATURAL RESOURCES ARE LIMITED. THE SUPREMACY OF THE PARTY (RASSEMBLEMENT DE PEUPLE TOGOLAIS-RPT), A STRONG EXECUTIVE, AND A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WERE INSTITUTIONALIZED BY THE CONSTITUTION OF THE THIRD REPUBLIC WHICH WENT INTO EFFECT JANUARY 1, 1980. TOGO'S LEGAL SYSTEM INCLUDES A SUPREME COURT AND A COURT OF APPEALS WHICH FUNCTION UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. THE GOVERNMENT PLACES NATIONAL UNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OVER INDIVIDUAL POLITICAL AND CIVIL LIBERTIES. PRESIDENT EYADEMA HAS DEVELOPED A NATIONALIST PHILOSOPHY TO UNIFY AN ETHNICALLY DIVERSE POPULATION AND HAS STRONGLY PROMOTED COUNTRY-WIDE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT WITH PRIORITY EMPHASIS GIVEN TO AGRICULTURE. WOMEN AND MEMBERS OF ALL ETHNIC GROUPS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN ECONOMIC AND, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE SINGLE PARTY STATE, POLITICAL LIFE. ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE SINGLE POLITICAL PARTY ARE SUPPRESSED.

I. RESPECT FOR THE INTEGRITY OF THE PERSON, INCLUDING FREEDOM FROM:

(A). TORTURE

TOGOLESE AUTHORITIES ARE SPECIFICALLY ENJOINED BY THE PRESIDENT FROM TORTURING DETAINEES. SOME RELEASED PRISONERS CLAIM TO HAVE BEEN BEATEN AND SUBJECTED TO HARD LABOR PRACTICES. ALLEGATIONS THAT SOME PRISONERS ARE SUBJECT TO ELECTRIC SHOCK HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIRMED. A FOREIGN VISITOR WHO HAD THE OCCASION TO SEE TWO PROMINENT PRISONERS IN JULY 1979, DESCRIBED THEM AS LOOKING HEALTHY AND WELL-FED. HE SAID NEITHER EXHIBITED EVIDENCE OF TORTURE. SOME CASES OF UNAUTHORIZED TORTURE HAVE OCCURRED, HOWEVER. TRIAL DEFENDANTS SOMETIMES CLAIM THAT THEIR CONFESSIONS TO THE POLICE WERE COERCED. SUCH STATEMENTS ARE DIFFICULT TO CONFIRM BUT ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT DURING THE TRIAL PROCEDURE.

(B). CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

PRISON CONDITIONS IN TOGO TO A LARGE EXTENT REFLECT THE POVERTY OF THE COUNTRY. LOME'S CENTRAL PRISON IS CROWDED AND FACILITIES ARE RUDIMENTARY. FAMILIES ARE ALLOWED TO VISIT AND TO PROVIDE FOOD. ADEQUATE FOOD, SANITATION AND MEDICAL CARE ARE PROVIDED AT LOME'S MAIN DETENTION FACILITY, BUT SPACE, LIGHT AND VENTILATION ARE LIMITED. REPORTS DESCRIBE OVERCROWDING, POOR SANITATION/HYGIENIC CONDITIONS AND INADEQUATE FOOD SERVICE IN MOST PLACES OF DETENTION OUTSIDE OF LOME. ONLY MILITARY AND PARAMILITARY PERSONNEL ARE NORMALLY GRANTED ACCESS TO MILITARY PRISONS AND DETENTION FACILITIES IN LOME, LAMA-KARA AND TEMEDJA WHERE IT IS REPORTED FORCED MARCHES, HARD LABOR AND BEATINGS HAVE BEEN IMPOSED ON PRISONERS. HOWEVER, A FOREIGN COUPLE WHO ARRIVED IN TOGO EARLIER THIS YEAR WITHOUT VISAS WERE ACCIDENTALLY PLACED IN A RETENTION ROOM AT LOME'S CENTRAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS WITH A TOGOLESE PRISONER, WHOM THEY CLAIMED WAS BEATEN BY A FEMALE POLICE OFFICER. WHEN THE PRESENCE OF THE FOREIGN COUPLE WAS NOTED, THEY WERE QUICKLY ESCORTED FROM THE ROOM AND WERE THREATENED WITH THE SAME TREATMENT IF THEY MENTIONED WHAT THEY HAD SEEN TAKING PLACE. SUMMARY EXECUTIONS HAVE NOT TAKEN PLACE IN TOGO DURING PRESIDENT EYADEMA'S REGIME. THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF DISCRIMINATION IN TOGOLESE PRISONS BASED ON SEX, RACE, RELIGION OR TRIBAL ORIGIN.

(C). DISAPPEARANCES

THERE ARE NO REPORTS THAT PEOPLE ARE ABDUCTED, SECRETLY ARRESTED OR HELD IN CLANDESTINE DETENTION BY OFFICIAL OR QUASI-OFFICIAL SECURITY FORCES IN TOGO. PERSONS HAVE BEEN BANISHED TO THEIR TRIBAL VILLAGE TO HAVE PUNISHMENT JUDICATED BY THE TRIBAL ELDERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL CUSTOM.

(D). ARBITRARY ARREST OR IMPRISONMENT

THE TOGOLESE LEGAL SYSTEM DOES NOT INCLUDE THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS. THE GOVERNMENT SOMTIMES DETAINS INDIVIDUALS ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR ACTIVITIES IT CONSIDERS CORRUPT OR HARMFUL TO NATIONAL UNITY AND SECURITY. SUCH DETENTIONS ARE USUALLY BRIEF BUT THEY HAVE NO FIXED TERM. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS ESTIMATE THAT THERE ARE STILL APPROXI-

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NATELY 2ØØ POLITICAL DETAINEES HELD THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, A CLAIM VIGOROUSLY DENIED BY THE GOVERNMENT. PRESIDENT EYADEMA PUBLICLY STATED IN 1980 THAT TOGO HAD ONLY SIX POLITICAL PRISONERS (37 OF 43 POLITICAL PRISONERS WERE RELEASED IN EARLY 1980). THE FIGURE OF SIX POLITICAL PRISONERS WAS AGAIN CITED IN A SEPTEMBER 22 SPEECH GIVEN BY AYITI NIVEDOR, PERMANENT DIRECTOR OF THE PARTY (RPT) IN HONOR OF VISITING MR. PENNE, FRENCH ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT MITTERRAND. ARRESTS FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING AND CORRUPTION

(E). DENIAL OF FAIR PUBLIC TRIAL

THE TOGOLESE LEGAL AND JUDICIAL SYSTEMS ARE BASED ON THE FRENCH SYSTEM FOR MOST CATEGORIES OF CASES AND ON TRADITIONAL LAW (DROIT COUTUMIER) FOR LOCAL OR FAMILY DISPUTES. A NEW CONSTITUTION WAS VOTED INTO EFFECT IN DECEMBER 1979 AND IN ITS PREAMBLE DECLARES ADHERENCE TO THE CHARTERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES AND THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. ARTICLE SIX OF THE CONSTITUTION GUARANTEES EACH CITIZEN RIGHTS OF LIBERTY AND HUMAN DIGNITY - POLITICAL LIBERTY - PHILOSOPHICAL OR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY - FREE UNIONS - PROPERTY, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW. A NEW INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY CODE APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND PUBLISHED IN APRIL 1980 IS STARTING TO BE APPLIED. A PENAL CODE FOR CIVILIANS HAS BEEN APPROVED AND PROMULGATED. VIRTUALLY ALL DEFENDANTS HAVE A PUBLIC TRIAL WITH THE RIGHT TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL. COUNSEL IS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN THOSE CASES WHERE THE DEFENDANT CANNOT AFFORD THE ATTORNEY FEES. THE ATTORNEY IS ACCORDED PERMISSION TO SEE THE DEFENDANT IN PRISON AND ENGAGE IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WITH HIM. DEFENDANT AND COUNSEL ARE FORMALLY NOTIFIED OF CHARGES IN WRITING. SPECIAL COURTS INVOLVING STATE SECURITY, EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS AND/OR VIOLENT CRIMES ARE ESTABLISHED ON AN AD HOC BASIS BUT OBSERVE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME STANDARDS OF JUSTICE AS REGULAR COURTS.

(F). INVASION OF THE HOME

AUTHORIZATION BY A JUDGE OR SENIOR POLICE OFFICIAL IS NORMALLY REQUIRED FOR PHYSICAL SEARCHES OF PRIVATE RESIDENCES IN BOTH CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES. IN NATIONAL SECURITY MATTERS SEARCHES WITHOUT FORMAL AUTHORIZATIONS ARE PERMITTED IN SOME CASES.

II. RESPECT FOR CIVIL AND POLITICAL LIBERTIES, INCLUDING:

(A). FREEDOM OF SPEECH, PRESS, RELIGION AND ASSEMBLY

FREEDOM OF SPEECH IS RESTRICTED AND A FREE PRESS DOES NOT EXIST. THE GOVERNMENT CONTROLS THE MEDIA AND DOES NOT PERMIT PUBLICATION OR CIRCULATION OF MATERIAL CRITICIZING ITS POLICIES OR PERSONALITIES. AUTHORITIES OCCASIONALLY CONFISCATE ISSUES OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS CONTAINING ARTICLES CONSIDERED TO BE CRITICAL OF THE GOVERNMENT. IT IS ALSO

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REPORTED THAT MAIL IS CENSORED.

(B). FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT WITHIN THE COUNTRY, FOREIGN TRAVEL, EMIGRATION AND REPATRIATION

FREE MOVEMENT, INCLUDING DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN TRAVEL AND EMIGRATION IS ALLOWED FOR TOGOLESE AND FOREIGNERS WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS. FOREIGN TRAVEL BY INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ALLEGEDLY POSED A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY IS RESTRICTED. IT IS GENERALLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT KODJOVI DE SOUZA AND TEYI LAWSON WERE REPATRIATED FROM ACCRA AGAINST THEIR WILL BUT WITH THE ACQUIESCENCE OF THE GHANAIAN GOVERNMENT IN 1979, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ALLEGED ATTEMPTED MERCENARY COUP IN 1977. BUSNESSMAN BANI LAWSON WAS ALSO FORCIBLY REPATRIATED FROM NIAMEY IN 1979, PRESUMABLY WITH THE ACQUIESCENCE OF THE NIGERIEN GOVERNMENT. IT IS REPORTED THAT IN SEPTEMBER 1981 A LOCAL JOURNALIST WAS FORCIBLY RETURNED FROM LAGOS. TOGO FAITHFULLY OBSERVES THE COMMON MARKET AND WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY'S CONVENTIONS ON FREEDOM OF PASSAGE AND TEMPORARY RESIDENCE. CITIZENS OF VARIOUS AFRICAN COUNTRIES RESIDENT IN TOGO ARE FREE TO RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN WITHOUT GOT INTERFERENCE.

(C). FREEDOM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS

TOGO IS A SINGLE PARTY STATE, UNDER THE AUTHORITARIAN LEADERSHIP OF PRESIDENT EYADEMA. FREEDOM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS IS THROUGH THE SINGLE PARTY, THE TOGOLESE PEOPLE'S RALLY (RPT) WHICH IS THE ONLY POLITICAL

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PARTY RECOGNIZED BY THE CONSTITUTION. ALL REGIONS OF TOGO, ALL ETHNIC GROUPS, AND BOTH SEXES ARE REPRESENTED IN TOGO'S GOVERNMENT, ITS SINGLE PARTY, AND ITS 67-MEMBER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. HOWEVER, THERE ARE NO OPPOSITION ORGANIZATIONS EXISTING OPENLY. WITHIN THE SINGLE PARTY-SYSTEM, ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS MAY EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS OF SUCH ISSUES AS THE FUNCTION OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BEHAVIOR OF ITS OFFICIALS. MEETINGS OF THE SINGLE POLITICAL PARTY AT VARIOUS LEVELS FREQUENTLY SERVE AS A CONSULTATIVE PROCESS IN THE FORMATION OF LEGISLATION. AN ACTIVE ROLE IN PARTY LEADERSHIP IS RESERVED TO THOSE WHO HAVE SHOWN SOME LEADERSHIP ABILITY AND SUPPORT PARTY OBJECTIVES. WOMEN HAVE NOT TRADITIONALLY HAD A ROLE EQUAL TO THAT OF MEN IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS, BUT THE GOVERNMENT IS ENCOURAGING GREATER PARTICIPATION BY WOMEN. THERE ARE CURRENTLY FOUR WOMEN ON THE 22-MEMBER CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY. THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND WOMEN'S CONDITION AND THE MINISTER DELEGATE AT THE PRESIDENCY IN CHARGE OF RELATIONS WITH THE PARLIAMENT ARE WOMEN. THERE ARE WOMEN IN THE TOGOLESE FOREIGN SERVICE.

THE SINGLE NATIONAL TRADE UNION FEDERATION, LA CONFEDERATION NATIONALE DES TRAVAILLEURS DU TOGO (CNTT) IS CONTROLLED BY THE NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTY. THROUGH ITS VARIOUS COMPONENT TRADE UNIONS, IT PROMOTES ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REFORM, WORKER EDUCATION AND LABOR COOPERATIVES. THE CNTT HAS THE RIGHT TO HAVE A MEMBERSHIP FEE CHECK-OFF SYSTEM FOR SALARIED WORKERS. WORKERS ARE PROTECTED BY A LABOR CODE, MINIMUM WAGE LAW, GUARANTEES AGAINST TERMINATION WITHOUT CAUSE AND A NATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM. THE LABOR CODE ESTABLISHES AN ELABORATE MECHANISM FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, ARBITRATION AND, AS A LAST RESORT, THE USE OF STRIKES. SOME WAGE INCREASES OCCUR AS A RESULT OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, BUT ARE GENERALLY THE RESULT OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE. STRIKES ARE STRONGLY DISCOURAGED BUT DO OCCUR, AS IN AUGUST 1980 WHEN TAXI DRIVERS PROTESTED THE MAINTENANCE OF FIXED RATES AFTER A RISE IN FUEL PRICEL AFTER 36 HOURS OF WORK STOPPAGE AND NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN STRIKE LEADERS WITH THE UNION AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, THE TAXIS ROLLED AGAIN AND A NEW FARE SCHEDULE WAS ANNOUNCED. LEARNING FROM LAST YEAR'S EXPERIENCE, THE GOVERNMENT DECREED A RAISE IN TAXI FARES WITHOUT THE PRESSURE OF A WORK STOPPAGE IN JULY 1981.

III. GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE AND RECORD REGARDING INTERNATIONAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

THE GOVERNMENT OF TOGO IN THE PAST HAS INVITED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, TO VISIT TOGO TO INVESTIGATE CHARGES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. AMENSTY INTERNATIONAL SENT AN OBSERVER TO THE 1979 MERCENARY TRIAL, BUT DID NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE DOSSIER (FILE OF EVIDENCE COLLECTED BY THE MAGISTRATE IN CHARGE OF THE PRELIMINARY JUDICIAL INVESTIGATIONS). SINCE THE 1979 TRIAL, THERE HAVE BEEN PUBLIC CHARGES AND COUNTER-

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CHARGES BETWEEN AI AND GOT CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN TOGO. DURING THE PAST YEARS THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL VISITS TO TOGO BY REPRESENTATIVES OF AI. IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE IN SEPTEMBER, A SENIOR STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL MENTIONED THE ADVISABILITY OF TOGO'S INVITING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) TO VISIT TOGO'S PLACES OF DETENTION IN ORDER TO COUNTER AMENSTY INTERNATIONAL AND OPPOSITION GROUPS' STATEMENTS ABOUT HARSH CONDITIONS THERE. THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE REPLIED THAT TOGO DID NOT WANT TO APPEAR TO GIVE CREDENCE TO OPPOSITION CHARGES BY INVITING THE ICRC. HE SAID ONCE OBJECTIVE ARTICLES BEGIN APPEARING IN THE PRESS, TOGO WILL INVITE THE ICRC TO VISIT ITS PRISONS. TO DATE THIS HAS NOT BEEN DONE. THE PREAMBLE TO THE 1979 CONSTITUTION DECLARES ADHERENCE TO THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

THERE ARE NO ORGANIZATIONS BASED WITHIN TOGO THAT REPORT ON OR OBSERVE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS.

TOGO HAS RATIFIED THE 1951 GENEVA REFUGEE CONVENTION, THE 1967 NEW YORK PROTOCOL ON THE STATUS OF REFUGEES AND THE 1975 UN CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL. TOGO WAS REPRESENTED AT THE OAU MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN AND PEOPLE'S RIGHTS IN BANJUL, JANUARY 1981, AND IS A SIGNATORY TO THE CHARTER.

IV. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

TOGO IS LISTED AMONG THE 36 POOREST COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD (34TH). LESS ENDOWED IN NATURAL WEALTH THAN MANY AFRICAN COUNTRIES, TOGO, WITH A POPULATION OF 2.47 MILLION AND LAND AREA THE SIZE OF WEST VIRGINIA (56,7ØØ KMS), LACKS THE BASIC ECONOMIC INGREDIENTS NECESSARY TO APPRECIABLY

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INCREASE ITS CITIZENS' STANDARD OF LIVING. ALTHOUGH ONLY 11 PCT OF ITS 25,ØØØ KMS OF ARABLE LAND IS UNDER CULTIVATION, AGRICULTURE IS THE PREDOMINANT FORCE IN THE TOGOLESE ECONOMY. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 79 PCT OF THE WORK FORCE IS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE AND THAT 75 PCT OF THE POPULATION IS SUSTAINED BY SUBSISTENCE FARMING. IN MOSTREGIONS OF THE COUNTRY, THE EASILY DEPLETED TOPSOIL IS NOT CAPABLE OF
PRODUCING SIZEABLE FOOD CROP SURPLUSES WHEN TRADITIONAL FARMING METHODS ARE USED. OFTEN DESCRIBED AS A CLEARING IN THE TROPICAL RAINFOREST, TOGO AND ITS EASTERN NEIGHBOR BENIN LACK THE DENSE AND HEAVY VEGETATIONAL COVER OF OTHER COASTAL COUNTRIES IN WEST AFRICA. CONSEQUENTLY, POPULATION PRESSURES AND OVERCULTIVATION HAVE LEAD TO SOIL EROSION AND DEFORESTATION IN THE HEAVILY POPULATED MARITIME REGION IN SOUTHERN TOGO AND LAMA-KARA REGION IN NORTHERN TOGO. ALTHOUGH TRACTORS AND ANIMALS ARE INCREASINGLY BEING USED ON TOGO'S FARMS, THE VAST MAJORITY OF ACREAGE IS TILLED BY HAND WITH SHORT, BLUNT, BROAD BLADE HOES AND MACHETES. THE USE OF FERTILIZER IS ALSO INCREASING, BUT TRADITIONAL SLASH AND BURN FARMING METHODS ARE PREDOMINANTLY USED ON MOST TOGOLESE SMALL HOLDINGS. FOOD CROP PRODUCTION HAS INCREASED DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS, HOWEVER, AND, GIVEN THE CONTINUATION OF GOOD WEATHER AND GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS TO AID FARMERS, FUTURE PRODUCTION LEVELS SHOULD CONTINUE TO RISE.
LAND SUITABLE FOR COFFEE AND COCOA CULTIVATION IS LIMITED TO THE FERTILE BADOU AND KPALIME AREAS THAT BORDER GHANA. 82,ØØØ HECTARES OF THE 1Ø2,ØØØ HECTARES OF AVAILABLE COFFEE AND COCOA LAND ARE CURRENTLY UNDER CULTIVATION. GROWTH POTENTIAL FOR TOGO'S TWO MAJOR AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS IS, THEREFORE, LIMITED (COFFEE ACCOUNTED FOR 1Ø OF EXPORT EARNINGS, 1975-198Ø, AND COCOA FOR 17.4). TOGO'S OTHER MAJOR EXPORT CROPS - PALM OIL NUTS, COTTON, KARITE, COPRA - HAVE GREATER POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH. COTTON PRODUCTION HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS AND COULD BECOME AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF NEW EXPORT RECEIPTS.

MEAT AND FISH PRODUCTION ARE INSUFFICIENT TO MEET DOMESTIC DEMAND. SHEEP, GOATS, PIGS AND CHICKENS ARE RAISED VIA TRADITIONAL METHODS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. SMALL HERDS OF BEEF ARE TENDED BY TRIBESMEN IN NORTHERN TOGO. IN RECENT YEARS, MODERN BEEF AND CHICKEN FARMS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN THE MARITIME AND PLATEAU REGIONS. TOGO HAS ONE MODERN FISHING COMPANY THAT IS A JOINT VENTURE WITH LIBYA. TRADITIONAL FISHERMEN AND SMALL PRIVATE OPERATORS WHO USE MOTORIZED PIROGUES ALSO EXTENSIVELY EXPLOIT TOGO'S POOR COASTAL AND INLAND FISHING WATERS. DOMESTIC FISH PRODUCTION, HOWEVER, FALLS FAR SHORT OF DEMAND AND LARGE QUANTITIES OF FROZEN FISH ARE IMPORTED REGULARLY FROM THE SOVIET UNION. THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR ACCOUNTED FOR APPROXIMATELY 26 OF THE GDP IN 1988.
TOGO'S MEAGER MINERAL RESOURCES ARE ALSO VERY LIMITED. TOGO ALSO HAS UNEXPLOITED DEPOSITS OF BAUXITE, CHROME, MARBLE AND CLAY OF UNKNOWN QUALITY AND QUANTITY. OFFSHORE OIL DEPOSITS HAVE, TO DATE, NOT BEEN CONSIDERED LARGE

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ENOUGH TO WARRANT COMMERCIAL EXPLOITATION.
MANUFACTURING IN TOGO CONSISTS OF A NUMBER OF MODERN GOVERNMENT FACILITIES AND ABOUT 9Ø SMALL PRIVATE ENTERPRISES. MANUFACTURING ACCOUNTED FOR ONLY 6 OF TOGO'S GDP IN 1988 AND CONSTRUCTION ACCOUNTED FOR AN ADDITIONAL 5. THE INDUSTRY AND MINING SECTORS, CUMULATIVELY, CONTRIBUTED 2Ø.4 TO GDP FOR 1988.

ALTHOUGH TOGO'S INFRASTRUCTURE HAS SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED IN RECENT YEARS, IT REMAINS INADEQUATE. TOGO HAS 7,4ØØ KILOMETERS OF ROADS OF WHICH ABOUT 1,5ØØ KILOMETERS ARE PAVED. THE TOGOLESE RAILWAY OPERATES FOUR LINES TOTALING 486 KILOMETERS. THE GOVERNMENT IS ATTEMPTING TO FURTHER IMPROVE ITS ROADS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE MEANS FOR A BETTER DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD.

TOGO CONSUMED 3Ø7 MILLION KILOWATTS OF ELECTRICITY IN 1988. 73 OF ITS REQUIREMENTS CAME FROM THE AKOSOMBO DAM IN GHANA. THE REMAINING 27 WAS PRODUCED FROM DIESEL POWERED GENERATORS LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. A 55 MW CAPACITY TERMAL ENERGY PLANT WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1979 TO SUPPLEMENT POWER FROM THE AKOSOMBO DAM. MOST MAJOR TOWNS HAVE SOME TYPE OF ELECTRICITY SERVICE, BUT RURAL RESIDENTS STILL RELY ON FIREWOOD AND OIL LAMPS TO MEET THEIR DAILY ENERGY NEEDS.

IN 1988, TOGO CONSUMED 71,915 CUBIC METERS OF GASOLINE, 13,911 CM OF CRUDE OIL, 47,347 CM OF GAS OIL, 884 CM OF DIESEL OIL AND 39,352 TONS OF FUEL OIL. TOGO'S 1 MILLION TON ANNUAL CAPACITY OIL REFINERY RE-EXPORTS MOST OF ITS REFINED PRODUCTS AND IS NOT A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN DOMESTIC ENERGY CONSUMPTION. ALTHOUGH PETROLEUM PRODUCTS ARE DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, WALKING IS THE PREVALENT MODE OF TRANSPORTATION. THE COUNTRY BOASTED ONLY 24,335 AUTOMOBILES, 12,132 TRUCKS AND 1,482 TRACTORS IN 1979. WOMEN AND MEN CARRYING LARGE LAODS OF YAMS, FIREWOOD, WATER OR OTHER PRODUCTS ON THEIR HEADS IS A COMMON SIGHT IN TOGO AND LOG TOTING PEASANTS FAR OUTNUMBER MOTOR VEHICLES ON TOGO'S ROADS AND HIGHWAYS.

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BANQUE CENTRALE DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE OUEST (BCEAO) IS A MEMBER OF THE SIX NATION UNION MONETAIRE OUEST AFRICAIN (UMOA). TOGO HAS SEVEN COMMERCIAL BANKS THAT MAINTAIN SOME BRANCH OFFICES IN THE INTERIOR AND THREE GOVERNMENT OPERATED INSTITUTIONS THAT FINANCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR IS DOMINATED BY A STRONG PRIVATE SECTOR. TOGO'S DOMESTIC MARKET IS VERY SMALL AND, CONSEQUENTLY, PRODUCTS ARE RETAILED THROUGH A SERIES OF MIDDLEMEN. THIS TYPE OF MARKETING SYSTEM CREATES A LOT OF LOCAL EMPLOYMENT. THE MARKET DISTORTIONS THAT ARISE WHEN PEANUTS ARE SOLD BY THE DOZEN, SUGAR BY THE CUBE AND CIGARETTES INDIVIDUALLY SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCES THE PURCHASING POWER OF THE POOR. OF COURSE, PEOPLE COULD NOT OTHERWISE AFFORD THESE. DESPITE ITS FLAWS, THE PRIVATE MARKETING SYSTEM WORKS AND ESSENTIAL GOODS AND SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT TOGO. COMMERCE, TRANSPORT, AND OTHER SERVICES MADE THE GREATEST CONTRIBUTION TO TOGO'S GDP IN 1980 AT 42.4PCT.

THE GOVERNMENT IS ORGANIZED INTO 20 MINISTRIES THAT HAVE CENTRALLY CONTROLLED REGIONAL OFFICES. THE INTERIOR MINISTRY IS IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC SECURITY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION. THE COUNTRY IS DIVIDED INTO 21 PREFECTURES (COUNTIES). NINE OF THE LARGER PREFECTURES HAVE SOUS-PREFECTURES (TOWNSHIPS) THAT ARE UNDER THE PREFECTURE'S JURISDICTION. LARGER CITIES HAVE MAYORS AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES THAT ARE, FOR THE MOST PART, SIMILARLY UNDER THE THE PREFECTURE'S JURIDICTION. THE GOVERNOR OF EACH PREFECTURE, SOUS-PREFECTURE AND THEIR IMMEDIATE DEPUTIES, INCLUDING MAYORS, ARE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT. THE TOGOLESE BUREAUCRACY HAS GROWN STEADILY OVER THE YEARS AND CIVIL SERVANTS ARE STATIONED IN ALL AREAS OF THE COUNTRY. IN 1980, TOTAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT WAS 41,895 AND GOVERNMENT, EXCLUSIVE OF STATE ENTERPRISES, IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE ACCOUNTED FOR 11.2PCT OF GDP.

THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDES LEADERSHIP AND SERVICES TO OVER FORTY ETHNIC GROUPS. EACH GROUP HAS ITS TRADITIONAL CHIEFDOMS AND LAWS WHICH ARE AFFORDED SOME LIMITED OFFICIAL STATUS. THE COASTAL/SOUTHERN ETHNIC GROUPS ARE THE MOST POPULOUS AND EDUCATED, AND PREDOMINATE THE ECONOMY, BUREAUCRACY AND PROFESSIONS. THE SOUTH'S MAJOR GROUP, THE EWES, ACCOUNT FOR OVER A THIRD OF THE POPULATION. OTHER SOUTHERN GROUPS INCLUDE THE MINA, GUIN, AND WATYA.

NORTHERN GROUPS DOMINATE THE MILITARY AND POLICE. THE NORTHERN KABYE GROUP ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT A THIRD OF THE NORTHERN POPULATION.

CURRENTLY GOVERNMENT POLICIES ATTEMPT TO CHANNEL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES TO THE POORER, MOSTLY NORTHERN GROUPS THAT HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY DISADVANTAGED IN OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION, DEVELOPMENT, RESOURCES AND SOCIAL-ECONOMIC STATUS. THE COASTAL REGION REMAINS, HOWEVER, THE CENTER OF TOGO'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND STILL RECEIVES AND PRO-

DUCES THE BULK OF GOVERNMENT REVENUES. DISCRIMINATION BASED ON TRIBALISM AND REGIONALISM IS ACTIVELY CONDEMNED BY THE GOVERNMENT, BUT SPECIAL EFFORTS ARE MADE TO HELP IMPROVE THE CONDITION OF LESS DEVELOPED NORTHERN TRIBES.

AVAILABLE INDICES OF TOGO'S SOCIAL-ECONOMIC CONDITION CONFIRM ITS OBVIOUS POVERTY. GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES TO PROVIDE BASIC SERVICES AND IMPROVE THE COUNTRY'S STANDARD OF LIVING ARE FUNDAMENTALLY LIMITED BY THE POVERTY THEY SEEK TO OVERCOME. THERE HAS BEEN PROGRESS, HOWEVER, AND TOGO'S VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS HAVE MANAGED TO MARGINALLY IMPROVE LIVING CONDITIONS.

(A). HEALTH AND NUTRITION

TROPICAL DISEASES ARE ENDEMIC IN TOGO. ACCORDING TO THE LATEST AVAILABLE FIGURES (1970) 16.3PCT OF TOGOLESE INFANTS DO NOT SURVIVE THEIR FIRST YEAR OF LIFE. SANITATION STANDARDS ARE LOW OR NONEXISTENT. LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH IS 47 YEARS (1979). 49PCT OF THE URBAN POPULATION AND 10PCT OF THE RURAL POPULATION HAS ACCESS TO SAFE WATER (16 COUNTRYWIDE, 1975). NET AVAILABLE FOOD SUPPLIES COULD THEORETICALLY PROVIDE JUST 90PCT OF THE CALORIC NUTRITIONAL NEEDS OF THE TOTAL POPULATION (1977). US DOLS 119 MILLION OF TOGO'S US DOLS 278 MILLION 1981 OPERATING BUDGET WERE ALLOCATED TO VARIOUS MINISTRIES (GOVERNMENT SERVICES); OF THAT, DOLS 11.35 MILLION (9.57PCT) WAS ALLOCATED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, DOLS 1.51 MILLION (1.28PCT) FOR SOCIAL WELFARE AND DOLS 5.18 MILLION (4.37PCT) FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. ACCORDING TO LATEST ESTIMATES, 7.2PCT OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS DURING THE 1976-1980 DEVELOPMENT PLAN WAS DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND 3.8PCT WAS DEVOTED TO SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IS THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY OF THE 1981-1985 DEVELOPMENT PLAN WITH A

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FOR TEXT)
PROPOSED 29.2PCT OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS DEDICATED TO AGRICULTURAL OEVELOPMENT, WHILE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE ACCORDEO 9.4PCT OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS.
TOGO HAS 10 HOSPITALS AND NUMEROUS DISPENSARIES THAT ARE SPREAD THROUGH THE COUNTRY'S 21 PREFECTURES. SERVICE IS PROVIDED AT SUBSIDIZED, NOMINAL PRICES ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS. EACH PREFECTURE HAS A HEAD DOCTOR WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION. DOCTORS AND NURSES ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY WITH 1 DOCTOR AVAILABLE FOR EVERY 17,980 PEOPLE, AND 1 NURSE FOR EVERY 2,000. THE SOCIAL WELFARE MINISTRY MAINTAINS CHILD AND MATERNAL HEALTH CARE UNITS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY THAT, AMONG OTHER SERVICES, DISTRIBUTE APPROXIMATELY US DOLS 2 MILLION OF FREE PL480 FOOD ANNUALLY.

THE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZES AND CONTROLS THE PRICES OF MANY STAPLE PRODUCTS INCLUDING BREAD, SUGAR, SALT, MEAT AND BEVERAGES. IN ADDITION, PRICES ARE CONTROLLED FOR THE QUASI-STATE TRADING COMPANY, SANACOM, THAT HAS TRADING MONOPLIES FOR SOME BASIC FOOD PRODUCTS INCLUDING BULK RICE. TO CONTROL SPECULATIVE PRICE INCREASES, GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS IMPOSE RESALE PROFIT MARGINS ON PRACTICALLY ALL RETAIL ITEMS. ALTHOUGH THE PROFIT REGULATIONS ARE NOT HONORED IN TRADITIONAL MARKET PLACES, LARGE TRADING ESTABLISHMENTS GENERALLY FOLLOW GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS AND CONSEQUENTLY TOGO'S COST OF LIVING AND INFLATION ARE AMONG THE LOWEST IN WEST AFRICA.

FERTILIZER AND TRACTORS ARE PROVIDED TO FARMERS AT SUBSIDIZED PRICES AND BANKS ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE LOW INTEREST LOANS TO THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. THE GOVERNMENT'S AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BANK PROVIDES ADDITIONAL FINANCING FOR FARMERS, AND EXTENSION SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO GIVE TECHNICAL ADVICE ON PESTICIDES AND MODERN FARMING METHODS. SINCE 1976, A US DOLS 9.5 MILLION WORLD BANK PROJECT HAS PROVIDED MATERIAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES TO TOGOLESE SMALL HOLDERS. IN ADDITION, NUMEROUS BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE FOOD CROP PRODUCTION ARE CURRENTLY UNDERWAY IN TOGO.

TOGO'S AGRICULTURAL POLICIES HAVE OPERATED TO SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE FOOD CROP PRODUCTION SINCE 1978. MUCH OF THE HARVEST, HOWEVER, IS BOUGHT BY MERCHANTS WHO SHIP THE PRODUCE TO MORE LUCRATIVE MARKETS IN NIGERIA AND OTHER NEIGHBORKPSCOUNTRIES. THE RESULTANT DRAIN ON THE LOCAL MARKET IS REFLECTED IN HIGHER PRICES AND SHORTAGES DURING NON-HARVEST SEASONS. LAWS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED THAT PROHIBIT UNAUTHORIZED EXPORT OF FOOD CROPS AND THE GOVERNMENT'S FOOD CROP MARKETING COMPANY, TOGOGRAIN, IS BEING EXPANDED SO THAT IT WILL BE CAPABLE OF PURCHASING AND STORING FOOD CROP SURPLUSES FOR RESALE AT SET PRICES BETWEEN HARVESTS.

(B). EDUCATION

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS COMPULSORY UNTIL AGE 15. SCHOOL FEES, WHICH WERE DOUBLED IN 1981, ARE STILL NOMINAL AT CFA 1,000 (DOLS 3.60) FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL, CFA 5,000 (DOLS 18.00) FOR LOWER SECONDARY SCHOOL AND CFA 10,000 (DOLS 36.00) FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL. PRIMARY EDUCATION IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AND, SINCE MANY STUDENTS START SCHOOL LATE AND REPEAT SCHOOL YEARS, THE NUMBER OF PLACES AVAILABLE FOR PRIMARY EDUCATION EXCEEDED THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE (6-11) IN 1979/80, (102PCT). AVAILABLE PLACES IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS WERE EQUAL TO ONLY 25PCT OF THE 12-17 YEAR POPULATION AND AVAILABLE PLACES IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS WERE EQUAL TO JUST 1PCT OF THE 20-24 YEAR POPULATION. SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IN TOGO HAS INCREASED ANNUALLY. FOR THE 1980/81 SCHOOL YEAR, 484,272 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PRIMARY SCHOOL AND 107,000 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN SECONDARY SCHOOL. AN ESTIMATED 3,332 TOGOLESE ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED AT FOREIGH UNIVERSITIES AND 2,800 AT THE LOCAL UNIVERSITY OF BENIN.

THE DEMAND FOR EDUCATION IS HIGH IN TOGO AND THE LOCAL POPULATION CONTRIBUTES TO SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS AND HELPS PAY TEACHING STAFF. 27PCT OF MINISTERIAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE 1981 BUDGET WERE ALLOCATED TO EDUCATION MINISTRIES. IN ADDITION, THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDES AN ANNUAL GRANT TO THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (7.29 MILLION, 1981) AND NUMEROUS SCHOLARSHIPS AND TRAINING GRANTS (11.2 MILLION, 1981). THE ADULT LITERACY RATE IS LOW (MALE 27PCT, FEMALE 7PCT - 1979), AND THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS INADEQUATE. 95PCT OF TOGO'S PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS ARE UNQUALIFIED AND ONLY A THIRD OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS HAVE AN ADEQUATE ACADEMIC BACKGROUND. A US DOLS 10 MILLION WORLD BANK EDUCATION PROJECT IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY TO CONSTRUCT AND STAFF TWO PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER COLLEGES THAT WILL ACCOMMODATE 360 STUDENTS.

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ENROLLMENT RATIOS IN TOGO'S NORTHERN DISTRICTS ARE CONSIDERABLY BELOW THOSE OF SOUTHERN DISTRICTS AND ENROLLMENT RATIOS FOR FEMALES ARE GENERALLY LOWER THAN THOSE FOR MALES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF PROVIDING UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION ON AN EVEN-HANDED BASIS REGARDLESS OF SEX OR ETHNICITY HAS BEGUN TO REDUCE THESE DISCREPANCIES.

(C). INCOME AND POVERTY

AS STATED BEFORE, TOGO IS LISTED AMONG THE 36 POOREST COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD. EXCEPT DURING PERIODS OF DROUGHT, ENOUGH FOOD IS AVAILABLE TO REASONABLY SUSTAIN THE POPULATION. PUBLIC BEGGING IS INFREQUENT AND LIMITED TO THE HANDICAPPED. FOR THE MAJORITY OF TOGOLESE, LIFE'S ECONOMIC BENEFITS ARE LIMITED TO MEALS, A CHANGE OF CLOTHES AND A MUD HUT. GNP EXCEEDED US DOLS 1 BILLION FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1980 (DOLS 1.05 BILLION) WITH PER CAPITA GNP PROJECTED AT US DOLS 426. GROWTH IN REAL GDP AVERAGED LESS THAN THREE PER CENT PER ANNUM DURING THE 1975-1980 PERIOD, BARELY KEEPING PACE WITH POPULATION GROWTH OF 2.4 (1970-1979). MOST RECENT ESTIMATES PLACE 42 OF THE URBAN POPULATION BELOW THE ABSOLUTE POVERTY LEVEL (1974-1978). TOGO'S HIGH FERTILITY RATE, 6.5PCT (1979), INDICATES THAT THE AVERAGE RURAL FAMILIES, WHO ARE THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION, STILL PERCEIVE LARGE FAMILIES AS ECONOMICALLY ADVANTAGEOUS.

NUMEROUS PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT, MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL AID INSTITUTIONS AND PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS IN ORDER TO IMPROVE LIVING STANDARDS IN TOGO. ANNUAL ALLOCATION FOR DIRECT EDUCATIONAL, HEALTH, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, YOUTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES HAVE TRADITIONALLY CONSUMED A LARGE PORTION OF TOGO'S MINISTERIAL BUDGET (1981 - 46.64PCT; 1980 - 47.32PCT; 1979 - 44.47PCT; 1978 - 43.65PCT). ANNUAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENTS TO CONSTRUCT SCHOOLS, DISPENSARIES AND PUBLIC FACILITIES HAVE ALSO ACTED TO DIRECTLY IMPROVE LOCAL LIVING CONDITIONS.

TOGO EFFECTIVELY SOLICITS MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT AID THAT SUPPLEMENTS ITS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE LIVING STANDARDS. THE WORLD BANK HAS FINANCED 5 HIGHWAY AND ROADS PROJECTS; FOUR PROJECTS TO INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION; AN EDUCATION PROJECT; PARTIALLY FINANCED A 1.2 M/T CAPACITY REGIONAL CEMENT CLINKER FACTORY; AND FINANCED STUDIES FOR A PROPOSED HYDROELECTRIC DAM AND A PHOSPHATE ACID FACTORY. THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FINANCES NUMEROUS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND COORDINATES THE PROGRAMS OF OTHER UN AGENCIES IN TOGO INCLUDING: IDA, UNICEF, WHO, WFP AND FAD. THE EEC, AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, WEST AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (BOAD) AND ENTENTE COUNCIL

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GERMANY, BELGIUM, DENMARK, PRC, NORTH KOREA, SWITZERLAND, JAPAN, USSR AND LIBYA. THE U.S. BILATERAL AID PROGRAM INCLUDES A RURAL WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION PROJECT WHICH WILL PROVIDE 400 WELLS AND A HYGIENE EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR TOGO'S PLATEAU AND SAVANNAH REGIONS; A LOW INCOME HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE PROJECT; A HEALTH TRAINING FACILITY AND CONSULTANT; A 140 MEMBER PEACE CORPS; LABOR, AGRICULTURAL AND ANIMAL TRACTION TRAINING CENTERS; A WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT PROJECT; AND A PL480 TITLE II FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM. FOR 1980, TOTAL US AID DISBURSEMENT TO TOGO OF US DOLS 3,820,000 WAS APPROXIMATELY 4.03PCT OF TOTAL ANNUAL DISBURSEMENTS OF US DOLS 94,786,000.

TOGO'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS HAVE MARGINALLY INCREASED THE COUNTRY'S LIVING STANDARDS. ANY ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECT OF MODERN INSTITUTIONS ON LIFE IN TOGO MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ITS CURRENT STATE OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WHICH IS, FOR THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF TOGOLESE, SUBSISTENCE FARMING. MOST TOGOLESE PEASANTS USE THE ROADS AND WELLS THAT ARE BUILT BY THE GOVERNMENT, SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS AND USE THE SPARSELY SCATTERED DISPENSARIES THAT ARE MANNED BY GOVERNMENT HEALTH PERSONNEL. A SMALLER NUMBER RECEIVE BENEFITS FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION, POTABLE WATER AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. FOR THE VAST MAJORITY, HOWEVER, THE WEATHER IS INFINITELY MORE IMPORTANT FOR THEIR WELFARE THAN THE GOVERNMENT.

LARGE GOVERNMENT INVESTMENTS IN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND STATE ENTERPRISES HAVE INDIRECTLY ASSISTED THE POOR BY CREATING NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO ECONOMIC GROWTH. TOGO HAS ALSO INSTITUTED A HOST OF FISCAL MONETARY AND REGULATORY MEASURES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECT THE POOR. THE MOST

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PROMINENT GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES INCLUDE: TAX INCENTIVES FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENTS; MODEST BUSINESS TAXES; THE PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT LOANS, LOAN GUARANTEES AND INVESTMENT COUNSELING TO BUSINESSES; MINIMUM WAGE GUARANTEES FOR AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS; ELIMINATION OF CIVIL TAXES ON PEASANTS; PREFERENTIAL INTEREST RATES FOR LOANS TO SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED TOGOLESE OWNED ENTERPRISE AND, FINALLY, SECTOR GUIDELINES FOR CREDIT EXPANSION THAT ALLOCATES SET PERCENTAGES OF TOTAL CREDIT TO PRIORITY SECTORS SUCH AS AGRICULTURE, LOW INCOME HOUSING AND SMALL BUSINESS. THERE HAS BEEN SOME QUESTION AS TO THE GOVERNMENT'S INVESTMENT IN HEAVY INDUSTRY AND LUXURY HOTELS INTENDED TO ATTRACT TOURISM. SUCH PROJECTS HAVE NOT PROVEN TO BE PROFITABLE. THE DECISIONS TO LAUNCH THESE VENTURES GREATLY ALTERED SECTORAL PRIORITIES OF THE 1976-1980 DEVELOPMENT PLAN. AGRICULTURAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT THAT WERE SLATED TO RECEIVE 22.1PCT AND 12.4PCT, RESPECTIVELY, OF THE PLAN'S INVESTMENTS HAD ONLY RECEIVED 7.2PCT AND 3.8PCT BY THE END OF THE 1979. INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT RECEIVED 44.5PCT OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS INSTEAD OF THE 30.1PCT ENVISIONED BY THE PLAN AND ACTUAL INDUSTRY, HANDICRAFT AND TRADE INVESTMENTS OF 41.4PCT CONSIDERABLY EXCEEDED THE PLAN'S ESTIMATE OF 29.5PCT. BECAUSE OF DRAMATIC DECLINES IN THE PRICE OF PHOSPHATES, HIGH OIL PRICES AND THE WORLD ECONOMIC RECESSION, THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT ABLE TO PAY DEBTS INCURRED BY ITS AMBITIOUS DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND SUBSCRIBED TO IMF STANDBY ARRANGEMENT AND DEBT RESCHEDULING AGREEMENTS IN 1979 AND, AGAIN, IN 1981.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ATTEMPTED TO FACE UP TO ITS FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES AND HAS FULLY COOPERATED WITH THE IMF, WORLD BANK AND BILATERAL CREDITORS IN ORDER TO WORK OUT CURRENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS SO THAT IT CAN CONTINUE TO TRY TO MEET THE BASIC HUMAN NEEDS OF ITS PEOPLE. HICKS

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